

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

5 Listing of claims:

1. (Original) A method of securing a device to bodily tissue comprising:
providing a device having an associated attaching means, wherein the attaching means comprises a housing, wherein the housing surrounds the perimeter of the device and comprises a plurality of notches or openings, wherein the notches or openings
10 comprise a fastening means pivotally attached to the housing;
positioning the device and attaching means on the bodily tissue;
covering the device and attaching means with a delivery system;
activating the delivery system such that the fastening means are pivotally rotated from a first position to a second position to secure the device in bodily tissue, wherein the
15 pivotal rotation is accommodated by the notches or openings, and wherein the fastening means are locked into the second position by a locking tab; and,
removing the delivery system from the secured device and attaching means.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the housing is integral with the body of
20 the device.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the housing is detachable and surrounds the outside of the device, such that the device is securely contained within the housing after said activating step.
- 25 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fastening means is a staple.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the staple is shaped substantially in the shape of a hexagon with two contiguous sides of the hexagon omitted *[image deleted]*.
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6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein a first leg of the staple is pivotally attached to the housing.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein a second leg of the staple punctures the
5 bodily tissue when pivotally rotating.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the staple maintains its shape when pivotally rotating.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the staple is locked into position by a
10 locking tab.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the bodily tissue is secured between the second leg of the staple and the device.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of notches or openings are
15 spaced equidistant around the housing.

12. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the staple is comprised of one or more
20 of: stainless steel, Elgiloy™, cobalt-chromium alloy, or nickel-titanium alloy.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivery system comprises a cover, a plunger, a slide pusher and a slide assembly, wherein the slide assembly comprises beams, wherein the beams are spaced so as to line up with the notches or openings on the housing of the
25 attaching means.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the plunger is activated via a pencil grip system, a palm grip system or a pistol grip system.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the slide assembly moves towards the
30 housing and device when the plunger is activated.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the beams push against the fastening means when the plunger is activated, causing the fastening means to pivotally rotate.

17. (Original) An attaching means for attaching an associated device to bodily tissue, said attaching means comprising a housing, wherein said housing surrounds the perimeter of the device and comprises a plurality of notches or openings, wherein said notches or openings comprise fastening means pivotally attached to said housing, wherein said fastening means may be rotated from a first position to a second position to secure the device in bodily tissue. \

18. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17 further comprising a locking tab for locking said fastening means after rotation into the second position.

19. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17, wherein said housing is integral with the body of the device.

20. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17, wherein said housing is detachable from and substantially surrounds the perimeter of the device.

21. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17, wherein said fastening means is a staple.

22. (Currently amended) The attaching means of claim 21, wherein said staple is shaped as a hexagon with two contiguous sides of the hexagon omitted [image deleted].

23. (Original) The attaching means of claim 21, wherein a first leg of said staple is pivotally attached to said attaching means.

24. (Original) The attaching means of claim 21, wherein a second leg of said staple punctures the bodily tissue when pivotally rotating.

25. (Original) The attaching means of claim 24, wherein said staple maintains its shape when pivotally rotating.

26. (Original) The attaching means of claim 21, wherein said staple is locked into the second position by a locking tab.

27. (Original) The attaching means of claim 24, wherein the bodily tissue is secured
5 between said second leg of said staple and the device.

28. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17, wherein said notches or openings are spaced equidistant around said attaching means.

10 29. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17, wherein said fastening means is comprised of one or more of: stainless steel, Elgiloy™, cobalt-chromium alloy, or nickel-titanium alloy.

30-37. (Canceled)

15 38. (Original) The attaching means of claim 17 further comprising a rotating disc for rotating said fastening means from said first position to said second position.

20 39. (New) A method of operating and implantable injection port, comprising:
providing an implantable injection port having a housing defining generally an upper face, a lower face, and a peripheral outer wall, a septum held within the housing and open to the upper face, the septum being capable of penetration by a needle along the vertical axis, the port further including a space below the septum defining a fluid reservoir and an outlet conduit through the housing from the reservoir, wherein the port
25 further includes a plurality of fasteners incorporated into the housing to enable a user to attach the port to tissue without sutures, the fasteners each having an undeployed position and a deployed position, the deployed position extending below the lower face of the port opposite the upper face;

30 providing a protective fixture adapted to removably attach over the lower face of the housing to protect a user from contacting the fastener;

providing a deployment tool having a distal end with a recess that receives the port therein such that the lower face of the port is exposed, the tool including a mechanism for transmitting movement of a proximal actuator to the port for moving the fasteners from their undeployed positions to their deployed positions;

- 5 with the protective fixture attached over the lower face of the housing, inserting the port upper face first into the recess of the tool distal end;
 disengaging the protective fixture from the port; and
 implanting the port.

10 40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the fixture resiliently attaches to the housing with tabs that engage the housing lower face.

 41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the housing and fixture snap together.

15 42. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the fixture includes a main portion that snaps to the housing and at least one grasping tab extending radially therefrom to facilitate removal of the fixture from the housing.

 43. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the fasteners each pivotally rotates in the
20 housing from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

 44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the fasteners comprise curved hooks distributed around the lower face of the port that each pivots from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

25 45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein sharp tips of the curved hooks rotate through an arc and are received back in or near the lower face of the port at the end of their travel.

46. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the mechanism for transmitting movement converts motion of the proximal actuator into rotational motion about the vertical axis to cause the fasteners to simultaneously rotate.

47. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the fasteners each pivotally rotates in the housing from the undeployed position to the deployed position, and the port further comprises a rotating disc for simultaneously rotating the fasteners from their undeployed positions to their deployed positions, and wherein the method includes rotating the rotating disc with the deployment tool.

48. (New) A surgically implantable device:

(a) a medical implant for performing a therapeutic function;

(b) an attachment mechanism comprising at least one fastener integral to the implant for attaching the implant to a body, the fastener having a deployed position that extends from a distal end of the implant, and an undeployed position proximal to the distal end of the implant; and

(c) a safety member covering the fastener and removably attached to the distal end of the implant.

49. (New) The device of claim 48, wherein the safety member comprises an annular recess which defines an internal cavity for receiving the implant.

50. (New) The device of claim 48, wherein the safety member comprises at least one grasping tab extending therefrom.

51. (New) The device of claim 48, wherein the safety member resiliently attaches to the housing with tabs that engage the distal end of the implant.

52. (New) The device of claim 48, wherein the implant and safety member snap together.

53. (New) The device of claim 48, wherein the fastener pivotally rotates in the implant from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

5 54. (New) The device of claim 53, wherein the fastener comprises a curved hook that pivots from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

55. (New) The device of claim 54, wherein a sharp tip of the curved hook rotates through an arc and is received back in or near the distal end of the implant at the end of its travel.

10 56. (New) A method of surgically implanting/positioning a medical implant for performing a therapeutic function, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an applier for attaching the medical implant to body tissue, the medical implant having a deployed and an undeployed state;

15 (b) attaching the medical implant to the applier, the medical implant comprising at least one fastener integral to the implant for attaching the implant to a body, the fastener having a deployed position that extends from a distal end of the implant, and an undeployed position proximal to the distal end of the implant, the medical implant further having a safety member removably attached to the distal end of the implant and covering the fastener;

20 (c) removing the safety member from the medical implant;

(d) locating the medical implant at a first location; and

(e) moving the fastener from the undeployed position to the deployed position, thereby attaching the medical implant to the body tissue at the first location.

25 57. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising the step of moving the fastener from the deployed position to the undeployed position, thereby detaching the medical implant from the body tissue.

58. (New) The method of claim 57, further comprising the steps of:

30 (a) disposing the medical implant at a second location adjacent body tissue; and

(b) moving the fastener from the undeployed position to the deployed position, thereby attaching medical implant to the body tissue at the second location.

59. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the safety member resiliently attaches to
5 the distal end of the implant with tabs.

60. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the distal end of the implant and safety member snap together.

61. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the safety member includes a main
10 portion that snaps to the distal end of the implant and at least one grasping tab extending radially therefrom to facilitate removal of the safety member from the implant.

62. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the fastener pivotally rotates in the
15 implant from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the fastener comprises a curved hook that pivots from the undeployed position to the deployed position.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein a sharp tip of the curved hook rotates
20 through an arc and is received back in or near the distal end of the implant at the end of its travel.

65. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the fastener pivotally rotates in the
25 implant from the undeployed position to the deployed position, and the implant further comprises a rotating disc for rotating the fastener from its undeployed position to its deployed position, and wherein the method includes rotating the rotating disc with the applier.